

This is the third and final bill of the tax reform 2.0 package that Republicans have been working so hard on. As the constituents of Texas' 25th District know, I have been fighting for a commonsense business owners' perspective on tax reform since day one.

Less than a year ago, we passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Since then, there are more jobs; Americans are seeing higher wages; and Main Street can finally breathe again.

While all this is great, there has always been the uncertainty of knowing that these cuts would expire in 2025, something I have been fighting to change.

I am happy to report that with tax reform 2.0, tax cuts will be made permanent for families, workers, and small-business owners across this country.

Regrettably, Mr. Speaker, I will be unable to cast my vote in favor for tax reform 2.0 tomorrow. My youngest daughter, Sabrina, is getting married. While I have a duty as a United States Congressman, I first have a duty as a father and would not miss her wedding day for anything in the world. I hope everyone understands my decision back home and here.

This vote is historic, and I am excited to watch this economy flourish to grow because of it.

In God we trust.

HONORING AIRMAN APPRENTICE JOSEPH NAGLAK

(Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay respect to the remarkable life of Airman Apprentice Joseph Min Naglak of Navy Station Norfolk.

Airman Apprentice Naglak was born in South Korea and adopted by Kenneth M. and Jeanne Rand Naglak of West Windsor, New Jersey. He graduated from West Windsor Plainsboro High School in 2015 where he lettered in varsity football and took time to learn automotive restoration.

Airman Apprentice Naglak studied homeland security at Monmouth University before enlisting in April of 2017. He lived with his fiancée, Nicole Weber, and was an active and energetic volunteer with the Special Olympics.

His life was cut short in an accident last week aboard the USS *George H.W. Bush*. In speaking of his courage and patriotism, his sister said: "He wanted to join the Navy to give back to a country who gave him so much. He was everything that I hoped to be one day, and he should always be remembered as a hero with a big heart."

I send my condolences to the family and the friends of Airman Apprentice Naglak. I express my sincere gratitude for his service and his sacrifice, and I ask that my colleagues join me in a moment of silence recognizing his heroism and his sacrifice to our country.

Rest in peace, Airman Naglak.

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, September is National Suicide Prevention Month, reminding us that we lose too many to suicide each and every day. Unfortunately, suicide is all too common among the men and women who have served our Nation in uniform, a population that is particularly at risk of suicide.

In fact, the VA estimates that 20 veterans and servicemembers lose their lives each and every day, and veterans are 22 percent more likely to commit suicide than nonvets. Among female veterans, the risk of suicide is a staggering 250 percent higher.

Veterans are just 10 percent of the U.S. population but constitute 20 percent of suicides. Measures like the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention Act, which we have already passed into law, are already making a difference, but even one veteran suicide is too many.

We should always remind our veterans, Mr. Speaker, and those who are in need, that there are always ways to get help. Veterans can always call the VA's crisis hotline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRONT RANGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

(Mr. POLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the 50th anniversary of Front Range Community College in Colorado, which I am proud to represent.

The college first opened in 1968 with only 2,000 students enrolled in a few programs. Today, they have campuses in Fort Collins, Westminster, Longmont, and Brighton—28,000 students, over 160 degree and certificate programs.

Over the years, FRCC has seen continual enrollment increases, serving even more students. Go, Wolves.

During my time in Congress, I have worked with FRCC to reduce the cost of textbooks, expand access to dual and concurrent enrollment programs with our school districts, support career and technical education, and ensure students who have obtained credits are able to get their associate's degree.

We recognize the hard work and perseverance of the students and the staff at Front Range Community College as we celebrate the 50th birthday of Front Range Community College and how it has helped transform people's lives and communities across Colorado.

For 50 years, Front Range Community College has fostered successful

lives and strong futures for everybody. Congratulations and happy birthday, FRCC.

RECOGNIZING CREWMEMBERS OF NAVY FLETCHER CLASS DE- STROYER COMMISSIONED 1942- 1969

(Mr. YOHO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to recognize the crewmembers of the USS *Cony*, a Navy Fletcher Class destroyer that was commissioned from 1942 to 1969. I would like to welcome the esteemed shipmates and their families to Washington, D.C., as they celebrate their 36th annual reunion.

During World War II and the Korean war, the USS *Cony* protected and transported goods throughout Asia and the Pacific. The USS *Cony* received 13 battle stars for its service and outstanding achievement that deserves recognition today.

The *Cony* and its crewmembers also played a crucial role in defending the U.S. during the Cuban Missile Crisis, and I commend the valiant efforts of the men and women who served this country while aboard the USS *Cony*.

Although the *Cony* was decommissioned long ago, her legacy lives on today. Thank you to all the members, past and present, of the United States military for your service and sacrifice.

WORK HIGHLIGHTS

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I stand with Democrats for the people.

Republicans want to repeal the Affordable Care Act, risking healthcare for 24 million newly enrolled Americans and 129 million with preexisting conditions. I stand with the people.

That is why I held a healthcare roundtable listening session where 53 healthcare administrators attended, talking about strengthening the ACA, improving the delivery and access to healthcare, and addressing social determinants.

Making homeownership a reality for Americans, I stand with the people. Democrats on the Financial Services Committee want to expand affordable housing and provide more homeownership opportunities to people like Mrs. Joyce Mayne, who, at 75 years of age a few weeks ago, purchased her first home on her birthday. Happy birthday, Mrs. Mayne. It was with the help of a nonprofit, Homeport, and the low-income housing tax credit.

We are working to fix our broken immigration system. Right now, Mr. Speaker, families in my district are being ripped apart, like Edith Espinal and members of the Mauritanian, Somali, Latin American, and Central

American communities. In the nearly 365 days, Edith has been in sanctuary, my staff and I have met with her family, legal representatives, advocates, and community stakeholders.

#KEEPINGTHECRUMBS

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, like every American, every Member of Congress has a lower tax rate because of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Every Democrat voted against this law. It was mocked as mere crumbs.

Well, folks back home have a question for House Democrats: #keepingthecrumbs?

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ended the death tax. The junior Senator from California said repealing the death tax is “a giveaway to those at the top, not something that will create jobs.”

Here is a response from a friend back home in Fort Bend County, Dan McDonald. Dan says, “E-I-E-I-O.” Dan’s comments are echoed by those of Rosenberg Tractor’s Gary Allred. Gary says, “Getting rid of the death tax keeps jobs right now and adds jobs in the future because Texans can keep their lands, pass them on to their kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids for all eternity.

Let’s step up and pass version 2 and get #keepingthecrumbs.

HONORING WARREN G. GOSS

(Mr. ROTHFUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U.S. Army Private First Class Warren Goss.

A western Pennsylvania native, Warren answered the call to defend his country and joined the U.S. Army in July of 1943 at the age of 18. He was deployed to the European theater where he underwent training for the D-day invasions as a rifleman.

Under heavy enemy fire and without air support, Warren and his fellow comrades were some of the first soldiers to bravely storm the beaches of Normandy, succeeding in their mission to secure a German communications tower.

Afterward, Warren was transferred to the 70th Division’s 274th K Company, where he continued to fight in France and across Europe until the end of the war.

Upon returning home, Warren met his wife, Mary, and fathered two daughters, Rhonda and Paula.

For his heroic actions to liberate France, Warren was recently made a Chevalier of the National Order of the Legion of Honour, France’s highest order of merit for military and civil merits.

Congratulations, Warren, on receiving this distinct honor, and thank you

for your valiant and selfless service to our Nation.

PAKISTAN IS STILL HARBORING TERRORISTS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the State Department has released its annual country report on terrorism.

Terrorist attacks are down worldwide, but there are still frustrating details that we must expose. The biggest frustration is that Pakistan, a so-called major non-NATO ally, continues to harbor terrorist groups that target the United States and its allies.

The report says that the Taliban, the Haqqani Network, LeT, and JeM, all terrorist groups, they all still operate in safe havens in Pakistan. Some are able to raise money, recruit, and train in Pakistan.

For too long, I, as well as others, have come to this floor to point out Pakistan’s duplicitous behavior. When will we stop appeasing Pakistan and sending billions in American money to these fake friends, money that ends up in the hands of terrorists who make war on America?

We must designate Pakistan as a state sponsor of terrorism, then revoke their major non-NATO ally status. Then we must go after these terrorist groups.

And that is just the way it is.

□ 1645

THE TRAJECTORY OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SANFORD) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, with due respect to my colleague from Oklahoma who has been kind enough to yield me a bit of time, what I am going to do is yield to him, ultimately, and he will take the bulk of this time.

I just was thinking the other night about the larger issue of government spending, and I would just like to walk through a couple of numbers here in a few minutes on its importance, because we have a big tax vote tomorrow. We had one today, and we had a vote before that, I guess the day before that, tied to spending and what the trajectory looks like on that front here at the Federal level.

But I want us to step back for one second and look at the bigger picture on why containing spending is so important and why it is not so important in our kids’ or grandkids’ time, but why it is so important right now.

I think it is interesting, if you were to look at the words of Erskine Bowles, the words of Sir Alex Fraser Tytler,

the words of Paul Kennedy, and the words of your local fifth grade elementary school teacher, what you would find is an amazing correlation between all four of them.

It was Erskine Bowles, who was, I guess, former President Clinton’s former Chief of Staff who said that we are walking toward the most predictable financial crisis in the history of man.

As we remember, they put together the Bowles-Simpson Commission of 2010. That ultimately led to the sequestration that we are in the process of getting rid of, but it was a “nuclear weapon” that said we have got to do something, yet we haven’t.

If you look at the words of Sir Alex Fraser Tytler, he was a Scottish historian who lived in the 1800s, and his words, after looking at world history over the whole of his life, were that a democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote for themselves largesse from the public treasury, with the result that a democracy always fails under loose fiscal policy and is generally followed by a dictatorship.

The average age of the world’s great civilizations has been 200 years. These nations have progressed through this sequence: from bondage to spiritual faith, spiritual faith to great courage, great courage to liberty, liberty to abundance, abundance to selfishness, selfishness to complacency, complacency to apathy, apathy to dependency, and dependency back again into bondage.

And indeed, if you look at the timeline of civilizations across the annals of history, what you see is that up and down of the way that civilizations have come and gone.

And it was Paul Kennedy, in his book “The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers,” who talked about how, traditionally, open political systems have basically spent their way into oblivion and that the largest thing that you used to be able to buy was a standing army—nowadays, the largest thing that you can buy is entitlement spending—but that in every instance, a civilization came to a tipping point wherein they had to decide: Do we go back to what made us competitive and, perhaps, a world power in the first place or not?

And that dovetails, actually, with another book that was written, entitled, “This Time It’s Different,” by professors from Harvard and University of Maryland. They looked at the last 800 years of financial history and they found, in every instance, civilizations got to this same point, which brings me back to the local fifth grade math teacher.

One plus one equals two, period. Numbers always work. Can they be manipulated? Yes. But at the end of the day, in the same way that gravity works, numbers work.

So I think that we just need to acknowledge that we are living in a weird